

the past two weeks, that I have turned on my television and not seen a commercial from the health insurance companies arguing that the Ganske-Dingell bill will increase the number of uninsured. The fact remains, that the Congressional Budget Office has reported that the patient protections in this bill will only increase premiums by 4 percent over 5 years. This translates into only \$1.19 per month for the average employee. But they don't tell you that. CBO also found that the provision to hold health plans accountable—the provision the other side of the aisle opposes the most and claims would cause health care costs to skyrocket—would only account for 40 cents of that amount. But they won't tell you that either. They also won't tell you that an independent study by the consulting firm Coopers and Lybrand indicates that the cost of the liability provisions is potentially less than that, estimating that premiums would increase between three and 13 cents a month per enrollee, or 0.03 percent.

This is a small price to pay to make sure that health plans cover the health care services we all deserve.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is a sham, these amendments, poison pills. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and pass a true Patient's Bill of Rights that provides real protections for all the 170 million Americans enrolled in a health insurance plan.

HONORING RICHARD "DICK" MOSS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richard "Dick" Moss for his contributions to the agricultural water needs of California's Central Valley. After many years of dedicated service, Mr. Moss is retiring as General Manager of the Friant Water Users Authority (FWUA).

Moss graduated from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, in agricultural engineering. He is a registered civil engineer in California and a graduate of the California Agricultural Leadership Program. His career began with the USDA Soil Conservation Service. Moss served three years as a Lower Tule River Irrigation District staff engineer and later as the manager of the Orange Cove Irrigation District.

Formed on October 1, 1985, the FWUA has been managed by Dick from its inception. A joint powers agency, the FWUA has 25 member districts in portions of five San Joaquin Valley counties, all of which contract for water delivered through the Central Valley Project's Friant-Kern and Madera canals. Friant districts serve one million irrigated acres and 15,000 mostly small family farmers along the southern San Joaquin Valley's East Side.

Moss has long been active in water organizations and water issues in California and the West. He has guided the FWUA in search of solutions to major water questions, including the ongoing consensus-based cooperative effort with environmental organizations on San Joaquin River restoration possibilities. Earlier this year, the FWUA aided most Friant agencies in gaining enactment of 25-year water service renewal contracts with the Bureau of

Reclamation. Even though he is leaving the FWUA, Moss will still work diligently on various water issues in the Central Valley.

Moss will be leaving the FWUA to establish his own engineering consulting firm. Moss, his wife Charlene and their three children live near Ivanhoe in Tulare County.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Richard "Dick" Moss for his years of service to the Friant Water Users Authority. I wish Mr. Moss continued success in the years to come.

HONORING LUIS RAUL CERNA-BACA

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the life and charitable spirit of my good friend, a loyal patriot, Luis Raul Cerna-Baca.

Born to an army colonel and a housewife in Camoapa, Nicaragua, Luis did not receive a formal education. However, his incredible thirst for knowledge, solid work ethic, and commitment to his family and fellow man, laid the foundation for a life of success, dedication, and charity, which serves as an example to us all of the determination of the human spirit.

At an early age, Luis sought ingenious ways to make a living and to reading whatever books he was able to locate. Through hard work and personal sacrifice, Luis Raul Cerna-Baca rose to become a leading businessman and a member of the Nicaraguan Congress. His character, intellect, and dedicated spirit was respected by his colleagues, who sought his counsel and advice in the many matters facing his nation.

A man of vision, Luis began to invest in the real estate, agriculture, mining industries, in which he found personal financial success. However, he never forgot how hard he had worked to succeed, those who had helped him, and those who had been left behind. A true humanitarian, his charitable spirit overtook him and he set out to help those in need throughout his country in any and every way possible. He donated scholarships, built housing and roads, and donated lands and funds to establish the "Eliseo Picado Institute," in Matagalpa, Nicaragua, where more than five thousand students receive housing and education.

In recognition of his humanitarian assistance, Mr. Cerna, now a U.S. citizen, has been honored with numerous awards and by leaders and dignitaries from throughout Nicaragua and the United States. In Miami, he was recognized for his assistance to immigrants from Nicaragua and around the world. In January of 2000, he was selected as one of the "Personalities of the 20th Century in Nicaragua," and was named benefactor of Matagalpa, Nicaragua. This October, Mr. Cerna will be awarded a Doctorate from the University of Nicaragua.

In the years that I have worked with Luis Cerna, following the Sandanista revolution, to bring justice to the people of Nicaragua, I have had the pleasure of building a lasting friendship with him, his wife, and his family. The strength of his character, the commitment of his spirit, the kindness of his heart, and the

hope that he holds for the people of Nicaragua, our nation, and our world, serves as a guiding light and a role model for his family, his community, and our nation.

STATE LEGISLATURES ENDORSE  
"OPERATION RESPECT"

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I want to call attention to the recent vote of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in support of Operation Respect, which works with school administrators, teachers, legislators and others to promote character education and social-emotional learning in our nation's schools. The resolution was unanimously endorsed by the NCSL convention in August and marks a strong commitment on the part of lawmakers throughout this country to ending taunting, bullying and violence in our schools.

This is an enormously important initiative. Our nation has been naturally shocked each time a brutal act of violence has occurred at a school and we are all committed to eliminating such dangerous behavior. We also have to be better attuned to the acts of taunting, violence and bullying that precede many such acts, and that are, unfortunately, far more common on campuses daily.

A Little Hoover Commission report in California earlier this year found that "alienated and disaffected young people are escaping the attention of families, friends and teachers until they explode into violence." A recent survey of more than 2,000 students in grades 8–11 nationwide found that 80 percent said that they had experienced physical or verbal sexual harassment at school.

Parents and teachers cannot allow this situation to continue and neither can legislators. Sound program models like "Don't Laugh At Me," developed by Operation Respect, are being utilized in many classrooms throughout the nation, and we need to give strong federal support for their expansion and integration into the school curricula as local educators see fit.

Earlier this year, Peter Yarrow came to both the Democratic Caucus and the Republican Conference of the House of Representatives to explain the urgent need for programs like "Don't Laugh at Me," and he received a vigorous, bipartisan response. Now is the time for us to follow up on the strong feelings and pledges of support Mr. Yarrow generated by casting our votes in favor of adequate funding for character education and social-emotional learning programs and teacher training both in upcoming appropriations legislation and in the pending education bill.

In the meantime, I want to share with my colleagues in the House the text of the resolution just adopted by the National Conference of State Legislatures in support of this important initiative.

National Conference of State Legislatures  
Resolution in Support of the Efforts of Operation Respect Inc

Whereas, NCSL joins the National Association of Secondary School Principals, American Association of School Administrators, Council of Great City Colleges of Education,

National Education Association, Council of the Great City Schools, American School Counselors Association, National School Boards Association, National Middle School Association, and American Federation of Teachers in Supporting efforts to "Meet the crisis of violence head-on, while simultaneously addressing the academic needs of students, giving them the tools to become whole, productive human beings; responsible, humane, ethical, participating members of our democracy and our society;" and

Whereas, NCSL applauds the goals of Operation Respect and its efforts to work with state legislatures to ensure the health and well-being of the next generation of children: Therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That, NCSL forwards Operation Respect's proposals for state legislative action for review and consideration where appropriate by the 50 state legislatures, territories and commonwealths of the United States.

#### HONORING GARO MARDIROSSIAN

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Garo Mardirossian for being selected as Los Angeles' Trial Lawyer of the Year 2000. Mardirossian was selected for the honor by the board of governors of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles.

Mardirossian is originally from Aleppo, Syria. Due to that government's intolerance of Christian-Armenians, his family moved to Lebanon and lived in Beirut for two years. At the age of eleven, Garo and his family decided to relocate to Cleveland, Ohio. From Cleveland they moved to La Mirada and finally settled in Los Angeles, California.

Mardirossian earned his Bachelor's degree in Economics from UCLA and earned his law degree from Whittier Law School in 1981. Later that same year, he founded the Law Offices of Garo Mardirossian. His firm started out by handling small personal injury and auto injury cases. Garo has established himself and his firm as defenders of the U.S. Constitution. He often speaks at attorney association's conventions, bar association meetings, and at law schools.

Garo's trial achievements include:

Palmer v. Schindler Elevator Company—in which Garo won a \$5.75 million verdict for his client who suffered post-concussion syndrome and a broken arm and leg when a belt in an elevator disintegrated.

Saakyan v. Modern Auto—an eight year case of defective tires where the jury returned a verdict of \$21 million.

Hakiman v. Gabbai—in which a jury returned a verdict of \$6.65 million for a man badly burned due to an apartment complex full of malfunctioning stoves.

Since 1986, Garo has been married to his wife Kathy, who is also a lawyer in his firm. They have three children: Ani, Nora & Kevin.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Garo Mardirossian for being selected as Los Angeles' Trial Lawyer of the Year 2000. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Mardirossian and his family many more years of continued success.

#### THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF AN INDEPENDENT UKRAINE

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues to the Flag Raising celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Independent Ukraine, that was held at 12:30 p.m. in Rockland County, New York, on August 26, 2001, at the County Offices Complex, in New City.

This event was sponsored by the Ukrainian Community of Rockland, under the leadership of Ukrainian American Veterans of Rockland, with their former National Commander, Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw, serving as the Event Chairman. I commend the Rockland County Executive, the Honorable Scott Vanderhoef, the Chairman of the County Legislature, the Honorable Ilan Schoenberger, and our County Legislators for providing a place to hold the celebrations. I also would like to extend a special thanks to the Honorable Theodore Dusanenko for his help throughout the years, and a heartfelt thanks to all of the participants for making this celebration possible.

I join the members of the Ukrainian Community in celebrating this significant anniversary. It is a miracle that, without bloodshed, the Soviet Empire, which held the Ukraine in its thrall, has melted away.

The anniversary program included thoughtful remarks by Commander Luchkiw, which I ask to be printed at this point in the RECORD for the information of my colleagues:

ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY . . .

(By Dr. Vasyl Luchkiw)

UKRAINE MADE IT!!! Ukrainian people made it! Contrary to all predictions and against all odds, Ukraine not only survived the past ten years, but actually made significant progress on its way to become a western democratic state. Even economy has been edging upward and there is hope for Ukrainian people who have suffered politically, economically, culturally and even spiritually for so many years. But there remains a lot to be done and Ukraine probably will not be able to do it alone. It needs help. It needs help in the broadest meaning of the word. Yes, it even needs help with fighting corruption. The 75 years of corrupt Soviet government and society left its indelible mark on Ukraine and it does not know how to get rid of it.

Western world must remember, that Ukraine greeted restoration of its independence with empty hands and empty coffers. Since that fateful day in August 1991, Ukraine had to improvise every step of the way. Its people had to suffer the brunt of economic shortfalls. The struggle is not over yet and west better not wait too long with its help.

There has been talk about a type of "Marshal Plan" for Ukraine. Whatever it is, it better come soon. Procrastination with help for Ukraine may turn into disaster for western Europe, if not the entire democratic world. Ukraine's neighbor to the north is waiting "ready and willing." It is aching for a chance to "show" people of Ukraine that it is he that truly cares about Ukraine and that is he to whom Ukraine should turn for support and guidance. Need we say more?

This 10th anniversary is an appropriate time for the Western world, and particularly for the United States, through its congress

and administration, to demonstrate strong support for Ukraine and its people (despite legitimate concerns on such as freedom of the press, rule of law, piracy and copyright, continuation of political and economic reforms, etc.), particularly now that Ukraine appears to be drawn more and more toward Russia.

The 10th anniversary is not the time to turn Ukraine and its people away from the West. Rather, this is time for the United States to do as is suggested in the House Resolution 222: "continue to assist in building a truly independent Ukraine through encouraging and supporting democratic and market-economy transformation in Ukraine, keeping the doors of Europe and trans-Atlantic institution open to this nation."

#### SPEECH BY PROF. BASILLIO CATANIA

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2001*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, recently, I took to the floor to tell our colleagues about Antonio Meucci, who is one of history's forgotten inventors. I would like to take this opportunity now to insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD excerpts of a lecture of Prof. Basillio Catania that he gave in October 2000 at New York University. I believe you will find it very informative and illuminating. I commend it to all our colleagues.

ANTONIO MEUCCI, INVENTOR OF THE TELEPHONE: UNEARTHING THE LEGAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROOFS

For 12 years I have researched the life and inventions of Antonio Meucci. My research was largely based on original documents, found in archives located in Italy, Cuba and the United States. Here I will briefly touch on topics connected with Meucci's priority in the invention of the telephone, namely, the Bell v. Globe trial, the United States v. Bell trial, and the scientific proofs of Meucci's priority.

Regarding the Bell v. Globe trial, it is known that Judge Wallace's decision, issued in New York on 19 July 1887, ruled in favor of the Bell Company against the Globe Telephone Company and Meucci. The report of this trial is at 31 F. 729 (Cir. Ct., S.D.N.Y., 1887). In particular, the Deposition of Antonio Meucci is also available in many public libraries, such as the New York Public Library and the Library of Congress.

However, it must be remarked that, while the Bell Company had sued the Globe Company and Meucci for patent infringement, it is largely unknown that the U.S. Government sued the Bell Company and Graham Bell for fraud, collusion and deception in obtaining the telephone patent(s). See 32 F. 591 (Cir. Ct., D. Mass., 1887). The U.S. Government set out to prove that Meucci—not Bell—had discovered the electromagnetic telephone and that the German Philipp Reiss had discovered the variable resistance transmitter, later called the "microphone." In other words, whereas in New York the Bell Company claimed that Bell, not Meucci, was the inventor of the telephone, in Washington the Government claimed the opposite. Here is a brief chronology of what had happened in Washington, before the commencement of the Bell action against Meucci.

As early as 31 August 1885, the U.S. Solicitor General consented to petitions from several parties and authorized the U.S. Attorney for Western Tennessee to institute a suit